THE SPECIFICATION

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 5 (through page 1, line 8) with the following amended paragraph:

Related subject matter is disclosed in the co-pending, commonly assigned, U.S. Patent application of Chuah, entitled "Universal Mobile Telecommunications (UMTS) Quality of Service (QoS) Supporting Variable ~~Downgradeable~~ QoS Negotiation," application Ser. No. [[ ]]09/764,510, filed on Jan. ~~X~~18, 2001.

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 2 (through page 4, line 17) with the following amended paragraph:

A QoS IE is coded, or formatted, as shown in QoS IE 300 of FIG. 2. The QoS IE 300 has a length of 13 octets (an octet is 8 bits wide) and specifies QoS parameters for a PDP context. The first two octets define the type of information element (here, a QoS IE) and its length. Octet 3 holds two spare bits and also communicates the delay class and the reliability class (three bits each). Octet 4 conveys the peak throughput, precedence class and a spare bit. Octet 5 conveys the mean throughput and three spare bits. Octet 6 ~~coveys~~conveys the traffic class (conversational, streaming, interactive, or background), delivery order (whether the UMTS bearer shall provide in-sequence service data units (SDUs) delivery or not) and delivery of erroneous SDU (whether SDUs detected as erroneous shall be delivered or discarded). Since an SDU is a packet comprising a payload, octet 7 conveys the maximum SDU size. Octets 8 and 9 convey the maximum bit rates for the uplink direction and downlink directions, respectively. Octet 10 conveys the residual bit error rate (BER) (which indicates the undetected bit error ratio in the delivered SDUs), and the SDU error ratio (which indicates the fraction of SDUs lost or detected as erroneous). Octet 11 conveys the transfer delay and the traffic handling priority. Finally, octets 12 and 13 convey the guaranteed bit rates for the uplink and downlink, respectively.

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 16 (through page 5, line 26) with the following amended paragraph:

When the T bit is set, it means asymmetric traffic classes are to be negotiated (and, the presence of Octet 16 in the IE). This results in downlink requirements as to traffic class, delivery order, and delivery of erroneous SDU (octet 6) that can be different from the uplink requirements for traffic class, delivery order, and delivery of erroneous SDU (octet 16). When the R bit is set, it reflects the presence of octets 17 and 18, which

allows for supporting a difference in residual BER, ~~SEU~~SDU error ratio, and transfer delay in the uplink and downlink directions. Illustratively, the R bit is useful for push services where the downlink may be a streaming traffic class but the uplink can be an interactive traffic class. (Obviously, the length of the IE as communicated in octet 2 is also dependent upon the value of the D, T and R bits.) Thus, a wider variety of asymmetric needs are met by QoS IE 400 than just the bit rates as defined in QoS IE 300 of the prior art.

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 22 (through page7, line 29) with the following amended paragraph:

Turning briefly to FIG. 9, a high-level block diagram of a representative packet server for use in accordance with the principles of the invention is shown. Packet server 605 is a stored-program-control based processor architecture and includes processor 650, memory 660 (for storing program instructions and data, e.g., for communicating in accordance with the above-described modified PDP context activation procedure supporting asymmetric QoS) and communications interface(s) 665 for coupling to one or more packet communication facilities as represented by path 666 (e.g., a transceiver and associated air interface, respectively). Line 651 represents at least one bus line that provides a data path between the processor 650, memory 660, and communications interface 665.